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NRO review(s) completed.

(Excerpt from a file of DPD entitled "Status of CORONA" retired by OSA Registry.)

Document dated 17 April 1960, Unno'd, Secret.

Subj: Assumptions for continuing photo reconnaissance of denied areas (1962-1970)

Lacking an international arms agreement there would be continuing need for photo intelligence of the Soviet Bloc areas development.

With an arms agreement at some point, there would be a need for photo intelligence for inspection purposes.

Although manned, lower altitude, flights giving higher resolution photography could be carried out, there would still be a need for gross coverage from satellites to fill in time and area gaps between manned flight coverage.

The extent to which reconnaissance satellites would need to be flown covertly was not clear at that point but it was felt that as soon as an arms control agreement was reached, U.S. reluctance to orbit photo reconnaissance satellites would disappear in view of the requirement for inspection, and probable public acceptance of the necessity for this action. The general conclusion by DPD was therefore that CIA would probably end its participation in satellite reconnaissance by the close of 1961.

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